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General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 69 (a)
Promotion and protection of human rights: implementation of human rights instruments

Argentina, Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Jamaica, Jordan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand: draft resolution

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, the most recent of which was resolution 64/154 of 18 December 2009, as well as relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council, the Commission for Social Development and the Commission on Human Rights,

Noting the request of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities that the General Assembly authorize an extension of its meeting time,

Noting also that the Committee has a unique operative environment and currently only meets for two sessions of one week a year,

1. *Welcomes* the fact that, since the opening for signature of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[1] and the Optional Protocol thereto[2] on 30 March 2007, one hundred and forty-nine States have signed and one hundred and three States have ratified the Convention and ninety States have signed and seventy-two States have ratified the Optional Protocol, and that one regional integration organization has ratified the Convention;

2. *Calls upon* those States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying the Convention and the Optional Protocol as a matter of priority;

[1] Resolution 61/106, annex I.
[2] Ibid., annex II.

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3. *Welcomes* the holding of the third and fourth sessions of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention and the work of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

4. *Decides* to authorize the Committee to meet for an additional week per year in order to address the reports awaiting consideration, and also decides to review, during the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly, the extension of the Committee's sessions;

5. *Invites* the Chairperson of the Committee to address and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh and sixty-eighth sessions, under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights", as a way to enhance communication between the Assembly and the Committee;

6. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General[1] and the activities undertaken in support of the Convention;

7. *Encourages* the Inter-Agency Support Group on the Convention to continue its work to mainstream the Convention throughout the United Nations system through its joint strategy and action plan approved in 2010, and calls upon the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue strengthening their cooperation in this regard;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to assist States to become parties to the Convention and the Optional Protocol, including by providing assistance with a view to achieving universal adherence;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the progressive implementation of standards and guidelines for the accessibility of facilities and services of the United Nations system, taking into account relevant provisions of the Convention, in particular when undertaking renovations, including interim arrangements;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take further actions to promote the rights of persons with disabilities in the United Nations system in accordance with the Convention, including the retention and recruitment of persons with disabilities;

11. *Requests* United Nations agencies and organizations, and invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to continue to strengthen efforts undertaken to disseminate accessible information on the Convention and the Optional Protocol, including to children and young people to promote their understanding, and to assist States parties in implementing their obligations under those instruments;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the status of the Convention and the Optional Protocol, and the implementation of the present resolution.

[1] A/66/121.